THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The State Government has submitted a proposal for the establishment of a cashew processing cluster in the coastal district of Mangalore in Karnataka at a total project cost of Rs. 29.30 lakhs under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The Government of Karnataka is to submit the revised proposal in accordance with the guidelines of IIUS.

Steps to remove bottlenecks to exports

3005. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that time has come to address the labour laws, infrastructure bottlenecks in order to remove constraints to exports;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken so far to that direction; and

(c) the details of the Ministries involved in this respect and their respective strategies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Removal of infrastructure bottlenecks, labour law reforms, etc., are part of a continuing process of economic and institutional reforms in the country which, *inter alia*, are expected to enhance economic growth and improve the competitiveness of Indian exports. The strategies of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2004-09 announced by the Government include upgrading of infrastructural network to international standards in the foreign trade chain.

(c) The Government has been evolving plans and policies in coordination with various Departments to address problems related to international trade. The Board of Trade has been reconstituted to advice the Government on policy measures to enhance India's exports. With a view to facilitating inter-Ministerial coordination and consultation while formulating respective strategies in the context of Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), representatives of various Ministries are members of this Board.